



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **RECEIVED**

FEB 09 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re: Patent Application of Edward T. Buford, III

Serial No: 09/912,692

Group Art Unit: 3747

Filed: 7/26/2001

Examiner: R. Chin

#10

Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20321

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Group 3700

Please accept the Applicant's Response to First Office Action (First Amendment) along with
Request for Extension of Time and Check # 12086 for \$55.00 filing fee in the above action.

Respectfully Submitted,


NIGEL L. SCOTT, Esquire
Pat. Bar # 27,385
Attorney for Applicant
7306 Georgia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20012-1617
(202) 882-5770
(202) 722-0040 Fax

Accordingly it is respectfully requested that the Response to the First Office Action and
Amendment to the Claims be accepted for filing.

Respectfully Submitted,



NIGEL L. SCOTT, Esquire
Pat. Bar # 27,385
Attorney for Applicant
7306 Georgia Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20012-1617
(202) 882-5770
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**RESPONSE TO FIRST OFFICE ACTION
(FIRST AMENDMENT)**

This is in response to the First Office Action mailed September 30, 2003 in respect of the above-identified patent application:

SPECIFICATION

Based upon the discussions between Applicant and counsel, the two drawings labeled "4A" and "5A" are now considered unnecessary for the allowance of the invention. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that drawings "4A" and "5A" be withdrawn.

Additionally, in light of the withdrawal of drawings "4A" and "5A" no changes will be made to the Specification.

CLAIMS

In the subject Office Action, claims 1-5 and claim 8 of the application have been rejected based upon claims 35 USC 112. Claims 1-5 have also been rejected based upon



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Serial No. 09/912,692
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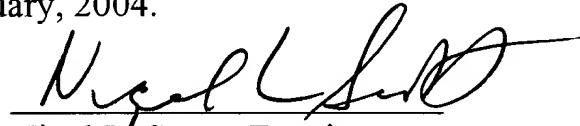
This acknowledges receipt of the following:

First Amendment
 Revised Drawing
 Fee in the amount of \$55.00 Check No. 12086

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of the Applicant's Response to First Office Action (First Amendment) was mailed to the United States Department of Commerce Patents and Trademarks, Office Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20031 this 23rd day January, 2004.


Nigel L. Scott, Esquire

SCOTT AND YALLERY - ARTHUR

7306 GEORGIA AVENUE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, DC 20012

202-892-5770

EXPLANATION

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SCOTT AND YALLERY-ARTHUR

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